(d) whether it is also a fact that due to charging of illeminite sand, deposited in the bottom and capacity of BF 4 has been reduced from 1500 T per day to 1000 T per day; and

(e) if so, what actios Goverament have taken/propose to take against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There were two total power failures in Rourkela Steel Plant, due to extraneous reasons, on 10th and 12th February, 1992. These were caused by system disturbances in the Orissa State Electricity Board (OSEB) grid, on account of overload, resulting in a voltage dip and leading to tripping of all the running units of the Captive Power Plant (CPP). On these days the operation of the entire steel plant, including its blast furnaces, was affected; the longest duration being in Blast Furnace No. 4.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The stoppage of the Blast Furnaces was due to shut-down of Turbo-bowlers to feed blast, after the power failure.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. After the break-down of the Blast Furnace No. 4 on June 6, 1991, illeminite sand was added to stabilise the condition of the hearth. This helped in smooth operation of the furnace; and in a gradual increase in production from it.

भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र

4248. **श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग :** क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र को अपनी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए किस क्षेत्र से लौह-अयस्क की प्राप्ति होती है ?

(ख) उस क्षेत्र में लौह-अयस्क के भंडारों को कितने वर्षों तक के लिए इसकी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करने के लिए पर्याप्त समझा गया है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र किन कारणों से बैलाडिला क्षेत्र से लौह-अयस्क नहीं उठा रहा है ?

इस्पात मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सन्तोष मोहन देव) : (क) भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र दिल्ली-राजहरा में स्थित अपनी निजी खानों से लौह-अयस्क की सप्लाई लेता है । यह भिलाई से लगभग 85 कि० मि० दूर स्थित है ।

(ख) और (ग) दिल्ली-राजहरा में उपलब्ध लौह-अयस्क भंडार अगले 20 वर्षों तक बना रह सकता है । इसके निक्षेपों में कमी आ जाने के कारण 1994-95 से इसके दोहन में वर्ष दर वर्ष तेजी से कमी आएगी । मांग की कमी को पूरा करने के लिए स्टील अथारिटी आफ इंडिया लि० ने भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र को लौह-अयस्क की सप्लाई के लिए लिंकेज के रूप में राउघाट को अभिज्ञात किया है जो बैलाडिला की तुलना में तकनीकी-आर्थिक रूप से अधिक लाभकारी हैं ।

Vijayanagar Steel Plant

4249. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the K.S.I.I.D.C. of Karnataka is setting up Vijayanagar Steel Plant in joint sector in collaboration with M/s. Essar Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time frame by when the project would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) According to information received from the State Government, the Karnataka State Industrial Investment and Development Corporation (KSIIDC), a State Government Undertaking, proposes to set the integrated steel plant in the joint sector in collaboration with M/s. Essar Gujarat

Limited. The Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited had been commissioned for preparation of the feasibility report. The proposed capacity is 1 million tonnes per annum, which will be implemented in two modules. The first module is expected to be ready for commissioning by 1995, and the second module proposed to be set up by 1997.

Purchase of coal by SAIL

4250. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of coal purchased by SAIL since February, 1990 from abroad, at which rate of landing cost, and by which parties;

(b) whether the lowest tenders were awarded contracts if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take against the Director Commercial and RM for incurring huge financial losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Since February, 1990 Steel Authority of India Limited have floated two global tenders in 2 part tender system. After techno-commercial evalution of the bids the parties were short listed for further price negotiations so as to obtain favourable prices. The orders were placed on Coal Corporation (NZ Blend) of New Zeland, ARCO(ARCO), Clutha (Wollondilly), MIM/ETA (Collins), MIM (Oakey Cr.) BUCL (GLS). TDM (River side), BUCL (Goonyella B), and KCC (Tahmoor) all from Australia for 2.00 million tonnes of coking coal and the C&F price ranged between US $ 70.00 and 73.62. Further, Steel Authority of India Limited have concluded agreements through direct negotiations for supply of 1.73 million tonnes of coking coal from Coal Corporation (West Coast Premium) of New Zealand, Sojuzpromexport (Sibir) of erstwhile U.S.S.R., Weglokoks (Row-35) of Poland, S.B.W. (S.B.W.) and B.H.P. (G.B., Countertrade) of Australia. The price ranges from US dallar 71.10 to US dollar 81.88.

(c) Steel Authority of India Limited have not incurred any financial losses in this context. Hence, no action is warranted.

Occupational Health in Indian Iron and Steel Company

4251. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Iron and Steel Company has undertaken to upgrade its occupational health at Burnpur;

(b) whether it has become necessary because occupational health is posing problems to the authorities;

(c) if so, what is the status report on occupational Health at Burnpur;

(d) the number of workers that are affected and the number of those workers who would get treatment; and

(e) whether effective measures are being taken to upgrade working condition inside the factory; if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. As a part of occupational health policy of SAIL, continuous medical as well as environmental monitoring is being conducted at IISCO.

(d) No such case of occupational diseases has been detected so far;

(e) The following effective measures are being taken at IISCO to upgrade working conditions inside the factory;

(i) Effective use of Dust extraction system at Reclamation Bunker of Ore Handling Plant and at Raw Materials Yard, Elevator House and Smoke Chamber of Dolomite Plant;